Amendments to the Drawings:

Attached hereto are replacement sheets of drawings containing clearer versions of Figs. 3 and 4.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Re-examination and favorable reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following comments are respectfully requested.

Claims 9 - 16 are pending in the application. Currently, all claims stand rejected.

By the present amendment, claims 9, 15, and 16 have been amended and claim 14 has been cancelled without prejudice. The amendments to claim 16 are made for clarification purposes and not for purposes related to patentability.

In the office action mailed December 4, 2009, the Examiner objected to the drawings. Replacement sheets of drawings containing Figs. 3 and 4 are attached hereto. The Examiner is hereby requested to approve same.

Further in said office action, claims 9 - 13 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 9 has been amended to include the subject matter of claims 14 and 15 which has been indicated by the Examiner to be statutory. Thus, this rejection is now moot.

Still further in said office action, claims 9 - 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Appropriate corrections have been made to moot this rejection. Applicants note however that there is no phrase "the prior steps of the method" in claim 9 as set forth in the preliminary amendment of January 10, 2006.

Yet further in the office action, claims 9 - 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,353,768 to Karafillis. This rejection is now moot for the following reasons.

Claim 9 as amended herein is directed to a method for the

numerical simulation of a pressing process comprising the steps consisting of: recording at least one meta-model formed by a supervisor consisting of a permanent collection of numerical representations of elementary constituents of pressing tools, each of the elementary constituents being defined in the form of finite elements, and comprising numerical static attributes, creating a macro command by a user comprising: recording a numerical model of deformation of a blank used in the process to be simulated, selecting a subset of the permanent collection, for temporary recording of elementary constituents representing a particular pressing tool corresponding to a simulation in question, the subset constituting a specific collection in the form of digitized finite elements, parameterizing the digitized finite elements of the specific collection, as well as the corresponding attributes according to characteristics of the process to be simulated, recording numerical information representing relative movements of components of the specific collection, according to operating cycles of the pressing process to be simulated, compiling the macro command in supervisor mode comprising: recalculating numerical models of deformation of the blank according to numerical information recorded in the parameterized specific collection, the numerical model of the blank, and specific movements, and generating a numerical or visual representation of the deformations of the blank by the application of the recalculated numerical model, wherein the step of forming the specific collection further comprises displaying a graphical interface and recording information captured from the graphical interface and the step of displaying a graphical interface comprises personalizing a prerecorded interface.

Support for the amendments to claim 9 can be found on page

6, line 19; page 9, lines 11 - 12 and 14 to 30; and claims 14 and 15 as previously presented.

Karafillis does not teach that the step of forming the specific collection further comprises displaying a graphical interface and recording information captured from the graphical interface and the step of displaying a graphical interface comprises personalizing a prerecorded interface. Such characteristics have the effect of allowing the user to define the modeling process of drawing by making a limited number of parameters. See page 3, line 33 to page 4, line 5; and page 7, lines 12 - 13 of the instant specification.

Starting from Karafillis, it appears that the technical problem to solve is to improve the configuration tool of a process of modeling a drawing. In order to resolve the above cited technical problem, the skilled person, starting from the process described in Karafillis and his general knowledge, would not have been inclined to modify the teaching of Karafillis to obtain the solution according to the present invention. Indeed Karafillis does not teach a mechanism to customize a configuration interface model thereby giving the invention a decisive advantage to allow the user to be faster and more efficient. In addition, Karafillis aims to limit human intervention in such a process modeling (see col. 1, lines 60 - 64).

For these reasons, claim 9 is allowable over Karafillis.

Claims 10 - 13, 15, and 16 are allowable for the same reasons as claim 9 as well as on their own accord.

The instant application is believed to be in condition for allowance, such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, he is

hereby invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

A request for extension of time is enclosed herewith. The Director is hereby authorized the extension of time fee in the amount of $1,110.00 to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

If any additional fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Faycal Mehrez et al.

By /Barry L. Kelmachter #29999/
Barry L. Kelmachter
BACHMAN & LaPOINTE, P.C.
Reg. No. 29,999
Attorney for Applicants

Telephone: (203)777-6628 ext. 112
Telefax: (203)865-0297
Email: docket@bachlap.com

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